

READY FOR THE NEW YEAR.

## IN THE SOCIAL WORLD. |

AMERICAN WOMEN, THEIR DRESS AND HABITS AS CARICATURED BY BRITISH VISITORS.

SOUL READING-A STARTLING POSSIBILITY

when a distinguished Englishman spoke of writing a book on his American impressions, the great divine gave him this bit of advice: "Don't do it. In the first place, you haven't any impressions, and

The Englishwoman who said to a recently arrived American in London, "Ind you come all the way from America without stopping?" was not more vague in her ideas on the geographical po-

sition of our continent than is the average English traveller in regard to the habits and tastes of our women "I was told in Bermuda," said an English officer,

with the credulity of his class, "that the New-York ladies all chewed gum, and that what is called the reformed dress was universally worn on the streets." This, in spite of the fact that he had met scores

of well-bred American women at home and abroad, and yet he was quite ready to believe any state-

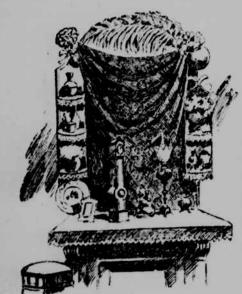
Most of the so-called Americanisms that come out in "Punch" and pass curren as such in soci-oty are coined for the English demand.

"I shall be considered very dull," said a young English lord, after several months passed at Newport, "if I come home without any new Americanjams, and I really have not gathered any," he added, regretfully.
"Why, that is easy enough!" answered his host-

ess. "We will make up as many as you like. We always furnish them to Englishmen when they leave us," and with the assistance of a clever young man, also a guest, half a dozen "Americanwere concected, which Lord -- gravely entered in his notebook, and each of which they all had the joy of hearing afterward quoted as "one of those dreadful American colloquialisms which are constantly used in their best society." SOUL READING.

It was rather a startling idea that one of the modern magicians of science announced to a young

"Yes, my dear young lady," he said. "It is o matter of time, and a short time, I feel convinced when your innermost thought may be easily read by



A CHIMNEY DECORATION.

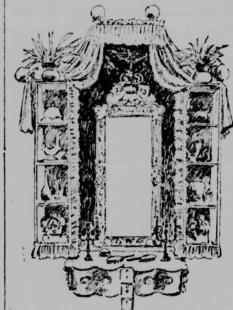
rections. Even now we know that certain emotions darken or brighten the eye, and I, who have studied he subject, can even read further. In fact, I see no reason to doubt that the passing changes will be less legible to those who study the subject than the click of an instrument is to the telegraph operator."
"How truly dreadful!" gasped the young lady, cast-

ing down her eyes as if she feared all her pretty se-crets might be read by the wizard. That "those who run may read" our thoughts is a decidedly unpleasant suggestion, and it is to be hoped, for the sake of love and friendship, such an advance in science will be long delayed.

many ways, despite the reserve of its owner Those who have studied handwriting make wonderful guesses, if guesses they be, at the virtues and of an individual. Palmistry has its scores of believers, and an analytical mind discovers much by simple observation that would astonish and displease the object of such scrutiny if he or she were conscious of it, for, despite the wish of the poet, it is far

kind that we should not "see oursel's as ithers

THE MATERNAL CHAPERON. Although the secret of eternal juvenility has not yet been discovered, many women experience the



DECORATION FOR A DRESSING TABLE. pleasures as well as the heartburnings of their youth a second time in the lives of their daughters. In this they have the advantage or disadvantage of the men, who, however fondly attached they may be to their children, are incapable of feeling that intense sympathy or rather to their wives almost a second existence. One has only to look at the row of chaperons seated on the dais of honor back of the dancers at any one of the great balls to see what vicarious triis each mother watches the first venture of her

Her motherly heart flutters with pleasure as she sees her child first with one partner and then with another, betokening that the latter is sought after and bids fair to be popular; or, perhaps, with nervousness as she perceives that her honelessly "stuck" with a despairing-looking youth and that she is powerless to help her.

the forced smiles and conventional answers to her neighbor or passing acquaintance as her eyes eagerly follow the slim white-robed figure in the dis-

It is amusing to listen for a minute or so to the conversation of these ladies, which is almost exclusively about their daughters, their dress, their accomplishments and their various successes.

'Yes, Molly is most popular," says one proud mother, "although I say it who shouldn't. I assure you it is a fact that she has already had six strangers—thoughts distinctly revealed in your eyes.

Every feeling, every passion, will be indicated by the change of color and certain muscular contractions that will be quite legible to all who care to learn the new language.

"Truly, the eye is a wonderful organ," he continued, warming to his subject. "It may well be called the mirror of the soul, for it is not simply an organ of vision; its possibilities are immense in other di-

## MULBERRY BEND CHRISTMAS

THE CHILDREN DELIGHT IN WHAT THEY CALL "ANOTHER CHICKEN DAY!"

THE GOOD WORK OF THE ARRIGHT FAMILY-MIS-SIGNARY DEEDS IN THE HEART OF

CLITTLE ITALY.

Christmas found its way to Mulberry-st. Loads and loads of good things were received from the ones. Mrs. Anson Pheips Stokes, who is now in

Europe, added to the good time.
This lady sent 150 dolls, all beautifully dressed, to Mrs. Gerry Arright, for distribution among the girls of her sewing class.

The little Italians do not know much of Santa claus or St. Nicholas, but believe that the stock-ings which they hang up on Christmas Eve are filled by the Christ Child, and the shoes which they place for goodies on the eve of the Epiphany

The Free Reading Room and Library at No. 149 Mulberry-st., which is supported entirely by Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes, and conducted by Antonio and Gerry Arright, is, in every particular-al-though its name does not indicate it-a neighborhood settlement. The reading-room and library, which occupy the first floor, are used weekly by Antonio Arright says: "The measure of our

and young women, for social evenings, and as living rooms for Mr. Arright and dressmaking young women have a sewing and dressmaking and a hundred people stood through the entireliance of the property of the control of t Saturday mornings. The two Mrs. Arright have

"It is not the easiest thing in the world to teach these people tidiness and cleanliness," says Mrs. Arrighi. "After being told that they must come clean, the children appear with the middle of their faces washed, while the rest is left in pris to introduce Ethel to you. Oh, here she is!" And she will lug forward a tail, awkward Maypole of a daughter.

"Why is it that daughters are so much taller than their mothers nowadays. I wonder? The latter look quite shrunken, and I have to say something gracious and endeavor to cleit a few monosyllables from the daughter, who, after she has made a deep courtesy expressive of her reverence for my advanced age, after the ridiculous American fashion of the day, seems to think the duty of conversation devolves upon me; and when she finally turns aside to repeat the process with some one clse the mother proceeds to give me a dissertation on the girl's attractions and successes until I beat a retreation of the gradient over and over again, until now I fairly run when I see a mother and daughter bearing down upon me, as the sailor men say.

As the first night is the cruefal test of a new star, and the manager awaits with anxiety the verdict of the public, so it is in a way with the managing mother—her public is Vanity Fair, and if her debutante does not score what is called a social success, the disappointment to both mother and daughter is great, and in many instances it is to them, as to the impresario and his star, a matter of finance; the outlay can be ill afforded unless the desired result is obtained in a successful marriage.

DECORATIVE ART.

in one corner of the room; it is decorated with a white, lace-trimmed spread and pillow cases.

Antonio Arright, president of the Italian Free Read-ing Room and Library, is pastor of the Italian church which formerly worshipped in the Five Points House of Industry, but now holds its meetings in the Broome Street Tabernacie. Mrs. Arrighl's heart and soul are in the work. She believes that the people can be made desirable citizens when they become educated to American usages and ways. For example: No effort is made at the missions to teach them the



THE MULBERRY CHRISTMAS DINNER.

DECORATIVE ART.

a heavy gilt frame, is placed

projecting from the wall, is a half canopy draped with a china silk in a pattern of pink chrysanthermums. Against the same dark red background, which ends with the last rim of wood, are a set of open square shelves, five on either side, which are finished on the inside with a fill of the silk. These are filled with pretty specimens of china, the top one being decorated with a vase filled with dried ferns chemically treated so as to preserve their color and shape. The dressing-table is of polished mahogany, with brass decorations.

The second suggestion is for a chimney decoration in a boundor, and is somewhat similar in its treatment, except that the shelves are brackets and the entire woodwork is covered with light blue velvet, each bracket being edged with heavy guipure lace. Between the sets of brackets is draped a piece of heavy blue-and-gold Japanese brocade. The left-hand side is bunched up with a knot of ribbon, and on the right the folis are held by a round Indian basket filled with palm leaves and preserved flowers, under which the two brackets are hung with a ribbon. The chimney board is also covered with blue velvet and bordered with guipure lace.

These "preserved" ferns and flowers, by the way, are quite a rovelty and make very decorative winter bouquets. They are dried in warm sand, and their color is retained by a chemical wash of some kind which is the secret of the inventor.

A "BOAR'S HEAD."

A "BOAR'S HEAD." With college men home for vacation and school girls released for a fortnight's relaxation the holi-day season, by the common consent of society, is given over to juniors' entertainments; and dinners followed by small dances seem to be the principal entertainments. Most of these small functions are made as "Christmasy" in their character as pos sible, and supper tables are garnished with holly or with a Christmas tree in the centre, besides other

sible, and supper tables are garnished with holly or with a Christmas tree in the centre, besides other devices suited to the season.

One of the most picturesque as well as the most appropriate garnitures for such occasions is a "boar's head" crowned with holly. Even in England what is known as a "wild boar's head" is nothing more or less than the head of a barnyard porker with the bristles singed off with a lighted straw—not scalded. It should then be carefully boned and spread out on an earthenware dish and well rubbed with the following insredients: Six pounds of sait, four ounces of salipetre, six ounces of moist surar, maze, cloves and a handful of savery herbs. Afterward pour over the whole a quart of the less of port wine, leave the head in this brine for a fortnight, turning it over every day, then take it out wipe off all the exterior moisture with a map-kin, then proceed to stuff the head with a layer of forcemeat, then a few diee of tongue, bacon, hard-coiled eggs, etc., then more forcemeat and again the tongue, etc. Repeat this until the head is well filled and shaped, when it should be sewn up with a needle and strong thread, to preserve its shape, in a strong clean cloth previously well buttered, and laid in an oval stewpan. Cover it with trimmings of meat and six calves feet, and moisten the whole with a good stock mixed with sherry wine. This should cover the head. Put the saucepan on the fire, and as soon as it boils take it off, skin the whole, and set on the stove to boil slowly for five hours. When done remove the saucepan from the stove, and when the brazier has somewhat cooled take out the head and put it on a dish, fit appears to have shrunken any within the cloth the latter should be carefully tightened so as to preserve the shape. It should then be put back into its brazier and left until cold. Afterward the head should be taken out and put in a baking-pan in the oven for a second to melt any of the stock jelly which may adhere to it. Place it on a dish, make tusks of white turnips, pl

PASTE THIS ON TOMMY'S DRUM.

Upon creating noise I'm bent-I never go to bed. Although I'm dumb, I'm eloquent When hit upon the head I'm listened to with ecstasy Where'er I go or come Where'er I go or come:
| mad y roll and roll in glee| I'm Tommy's scarlet drum.
-(Harper's Basar.

closures. A bandstand is to be erected in the spring, and the new building on the north end of the park

duil day, is kept busy dragging them out of the inclosures. A bandstand is to be erected in the spring, and the new building on the north end of the park is approaching completion. This is to contain lavatories on the first floor, and the upper portion is to be used as a sub-station for park potteemen.

As one recalls the foul rookerles which so recently occupied this bright, sunny spot, it is easy to believe that civilization is surely marching on, and that practical common sense is solving the vexed problem (which was so long a pretty parior sentiment). "How to reach the masses."

"There can be no doubt," said a policeman on the "beat," "that people are bettered in every way by these godsends of greenness and sun and air. One family, at least, have risen in the scale of humanity as a result. Mrs. Glusspipe Bertl, a black-eyed, sunny-faced little mother, said in her pretty Italo-English that when the buildings were first forn down and the sun shone into her little apariment, she was frishened and didn't know what to make of it. She thought at first that her mind muss be wandering and that she was the victim of an hallucination which recalled dear sunny Italy. When the truth dawned upon her that this was likely to be a daily experience she washed her windows for the first time since she lived there, that not one ray of the preclous beams might be lost. Then the sun came pouring in, flooding it with lightness and brightness, and she was started at the dirty and disorderly appearance of her surroundings. She has been cleaning up ever since, and the place does credit to her energy. One would not exactly care to 'eat off the floor,' which in our tongue expresses all the requirements of tidiness with a few additional touches, but it is clean enough to be healthy."

The reporter found a seat with a very little difficulty. A plant, given to one of the children in the Five Foints Mission, was growing in the window, and stalls, tomatoes, peoplers, cheese, maccaroni and produced with tomato paste.

The husband came in wh

A three-cent losf of bread can be made to go a

very long way, especially if there is soup, and soup can be made very cheap, as there are soups and EMERGENCY SOUP.

One favorite emergency soup recipe is this: Some flour, water enough to go around, a piece of lard (all you can afford), and a pinch of sait. This, in semi-prosperous times, is varied by the addition of call you can afford), and a pinch of sait. This, in semi-prospecous times, is varied by the addition of garlic, or, if the week's income permits, of the thick brown tomato paste-a conspicuous article in all the Italian groceries. When the sun of prosperity is especially brilliant they use both. There are no people in all the world whose love of pleasure and display is carried to such an excess as this class of Italians. From the time one comes into the world, in spite of poverty, ever an grim and terrible, there is a succession of christenings, betrothals, marriages, funerals and saints days, every one of which requires the services of their most adorable minstreisy, the brass band, and all of which make these narrowed lives desirable and worth the living to their possessors. Before the reporter left a troop of children, every one with an apple, came flocking into the park. "They guy us every one an apple at the Five Points Mission," was the explanation from one of them. The little girls were very eager to show their aprons, which they had made at sewings-school at the same mission, "every bit themselves." While the reporter was admiring their handwork a full-grown woman came skipping down the walk, carrying flat on her head a lonf of broad nearly as large as a good-sized dishpan, and an the other side were two women, each with a "hessful" of long boards and scantlings, their hands swinging at their sides. On one bench sat an old man mending his shoe, and on another a weary-looking father tending a baby.

There was no need to wish the Bend a Merry Christmas. It was merry despite poverty and every human want, and not only was it merry on Christmas, but it will be fairly jubilant every day in the year. It is the nature of the place.

READING TO CHILDREN.

MISS BENEEY'S EXPERIENCES SHE READS TO-MORROW NIGHT BEFORE THE RIVERSIDE ASSOCIATION.

Among the names on the Board of Education? programme of free lectures and readings for 1897 that of Miss Ida Benfey appears several times. Miss Benfey does a great deal of her work for such audiences as those that she gathers in the East Side schools, and says she finds them most interesting 'A highly cultivated audience," she said to a

Tribune reporter, "is a delightful one to read to, but after that the best one is found at the other end of the social scale. It has none of the dulness of a middle-class audience, for among these peo-ple it is the survival of the fittest, and the stupid ever had was when reading in the Fifth-st, school and a hundred people stood through the entire

It pays to buy at Vantine's.

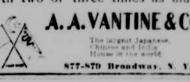
## A work of Oriental art.

A magnificent specimen of Oriental art is on exhibition in our rug department (5th floor) this week.

It is an antique Sirak rug with a large plain centre of ecru or cream color, with large, irregularly shaped medallion or diamond patterns worked in in lovely reds, blues, greens, ecrus and yellows.

The border is of smaller patterns of the same colors.

Four hundred and fifty dollars is the price, but as a work of art it is worth two or three times as much.



style of headgear. They are smaller of course, but are exactly like the tall slik dress hat worm

A gorgeous hatpin is often the only touch of color on the fashionable chapeau of the season

Many of the eleves for evening gowns are very short—a mere puff or butterfly how.

Wide, full knickerbookers of serge, light-weight cheviot and satin, with flannel linings that may be easily removed, are much worn in place of the short flannel skirts. They are found to be very cosey, and comfortable for cold weather, and they make walking much caster

An enterprising cooking school teacher in one of



WAITING FOR SANTA CLAUS IN MULBERRY PARK.

have been most interesting, and, if she were not

children," she said, "before I found one that pleased them, all of which time they sat shooting beans at me. At last I tried 'The Potato Child,'

and after that no more beans came. "The Potato Child is about a little girl who had no dolly, and dressed up a potato to represent one. It is a sweet story, and children always like it.

they simply get the idea that a grown person is doing something ridiculous.

"I had a most peculiar and awful experience once in reading to children in California. There were about two hundred and fifty of them, and all were between the ages of ten and eleven. I began with 'The Potato Child.' and they liked it, but before long there was a reference to the Deity in the story, and the children greeted it with a derisive yell, just like what one hears in political meetings. It was over so quickly that I did not realize what they meant, but later, when the little girl begins to tell her dolly the story of the Christ Child, the same thing occurred again. Then I understood that some one had brought the idea of religion to them in a decidedly wrong way, and took care to keep clear of the subject during the remainder of the reading.

Miss Benfey reads to-morrow evening before the Riverside Association, and has already given her annual Christmas reading before the Working Girls Club of Newark. She has gone there every Christmas for three years, and, though she sees the same girls every time, she says they improve so that they seem to be different people.

SIGHS OF THE OLD YEAR.

After the close of the present month it will be eight years before there will be any more leap-

A nose can be made over in almost any way that the owner desires. The hump can be taken off, the

retroussé tip brought down to its proper position

than 600 teamsters to whom I once read 'Adam In connection with her class work. When her published in the class work is the published and cooked a dainty dish they are allowed to taste it only. When the class is dished an noon the various dishes that have been worked from the lesson are sold to appreciative every trying.

Brass bedsteads are still preferred to every othe

The quarrels of newly married couples have been said to be in many cases the fault of the woman. The women are sentimental, and are hurt when their husbands show a districtination for continual billing and cooling

Cheap white lace can be made to assume as aristocratic yellowish tinge by being steeped in weak tea for a few minutes

Charles R. Skinner, State Superintendent of Pubhoods, showing proper certificates, are eligible for

Yvette Guibert, though never having about her the least suggestion of jewelry when before the footlights, has in her possession a very unique and costly collection of precious stones and rare gold ornaments so dear to the feminine heart.

design for a necklace, the like of which has never before enetroied a neck, nor does Mademoiselle intend another stall be made, for the model has been destroyed, and Yvette determines to go down to posterity as the only wearer of a necklace faste-

to posterity as the only wearer of a necklace lasatoned of the same material and in like design as
this one that belongs to her.

This particular necklace or collar is made of
beaten silver, or what is known to the Prench silversmith as martele, and is about one and a half
inches in depth and perfectly flat, with just he
east bit of rounding at both top and bottom edges.

Set into this band in regular spaces are even
magnificent jewels. They are a topaz, a sapphire,
an amethyst, opal, turquoise, a pearl and a christopale, and the clusp is an invisible one.

It is said that washing and rinsing satin and silk a gasoline will make them retain their color. and a wedge-shaped bit of flesh can be removed | faded slightly, the color may sometimes be re-



Buckles six inches wide, and bent to fit the

figure, are used for the backs of ribbon belts. one's gowns when they are taken off. They will look new much longer if they are not left to repose indefinitely on the most convenient chair.

The newest card cases are of mammoth propor tions.

Flowers can be revived after they have been vorn for an evening if they are sprayed with water and put under a bell glass. The stems of flowers received by post should be placed for a moment in hot water in which a little sal volatile has been dissolved.

Jewels worn with a black and white costume should be diamonds or pearls, white enamel, onyx or cats-eyes.

After eating onions, dissolve half a teaspoonful of soda in boiling water and drink it. This will prevent any tainting of the breath.

The latest driving hats for ladies are real black

from the sides of flaring nostrils, thus reducing them to their normal proportions.

Red still promises to be the favorite color of the Red still promises to be the favorite color of the with a clean, damp cloth and from

Straw is one of the newest shades in light silbs and filmy, lacy materials, and it is much worn. It has a dash of pale pink in it, and a decided dash of very light icmon color, and is a pretty and artistic shade.

In Paris there are 65,000 dressmakers and N persons who make articles of women's dress. The yearly amount earned in this business is over

FATHER CHRISTMAS.

Perchance you cannot see his face. That beams with such a joily grace. Perchance you miss the bursting pack Of joy and frolic on his back. But none the less, amid the throng Old Father Noel walks along. To hearts and houses drawing near With Love, the best of Christmas chee

His smile, unseen, but always felt,
Makes frozen misery to melt.
For foes he uses such a charm
As sends them homeward arm in arm
lie tells the wayward son that rest
Is surest on a mother's breast.
And brings to all who sojourn here
A sweet conclusion for the year.

—(Norman Gelle